

PATENT
09/766,253
Docket 018/180c

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1 to 7. *(Cancelled)*

8. *(Currently Amended)* A method for detecting the presence of polynucleotide sequences encoding at least a portion of telomerase in a biological sample, comprising the steps of:

~~a) providing a biological sample suspected of containing a polynucleotide encoding at least a portion of telomerase;~~

~~b) determining a nucleotide sequence contained in the polynucleotide;~~

~~c) comparing the sequence determined in step b) with telomerase motifs 0, 1, 2, and 3; and then~~

~~d) deciding that the sample contains a polynucleotide sequence encoding at least a portion of telomerase if the sequence determined in step b) contains motifs 0, 1, 2, and 3~~

a) obtaining an amino acid sequence encoded in a polynucleotide contained in the biological sample;

b) comparing the amino acid sequence with the telomerase amino acid motif

W-X¹²-FFY-X¹-TE,

wherein Xⁿ is a sequence of "n" unspecified amino acids; and then

c) determining that the sample contains a polynucleotide encoding at least a portion of telomerase if the sequence obtained in step a) contains said telomerase amino acid motif.

9 to 12. *(Cancelled)*

13. *(Withdrawn)* An antisense molecule comprising the nucleic acid sequence complementary to at least a portion of the nucleotide of SEQ. ID NO:100.

14. *(Withdrawn)* A pharmaceutical composition comprising the antisense molecule of claim 13, and a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient.

15 to 17. *(Cancelled)*

18. *(Withdrawn)* A purified antibody which binds specifically to a polypeptide comprising at least a portion of the amino acid sequence of SEQ. ID NO:101.

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19. *(Withdrawn)* A pharmaceutical composition comprising the antibody of claim 18 and a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient.
20. *(Withdrawn)* A method for detecting the expression of human telomerase in a biological sample comprising the steps of:
 - a) providing:
 - i) a biological sample suspected of expressing human telomerase protein; and
 - ii) the antibody of claim 18;
 - b) combining said biological sample and said antibody under conditions such that an antibody:protein complex is formed; and
 - c) detecting said complex wherein the presence of said complex correlates with the expression of said protein in said biological sample.
21. *(Currently Amended)* The method of claim 8, wherein the telomerase is a telomerase of a single-celled ~~eukaryotic cell~~ eukaryote.
22. *(Previously Presented)* The method of claim 8, wherein the telomerase is a mammalian telomerase.
23. *(Previously Presented)* The method of claim 8, wherein the telomerase is a human telomerase.
24. *(Currently amended)* The method of claim 8, wherein the ~~telomerase~~ polynucleotide contains SEQ. ID NO:100.
25. *(New)* The method of claim 8, further comprising comparing the sequence determined in step b) with the reverse transcriptase motif R-X²-PK-X⁴-R-X¹-I.
26. *(New)* The method of claim 8, further comprising comparing the sequence determined in step b) with the reverse transcriptase motif F-X³-D-X³-CYD.

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27. (New) The method of claim 8, comprising deciding that the sample contains a polynucleotide sequence encoding at least a portion of telomerase if the sequence determined in step b) contains the amino acid motif

$h_1-X^1-W-h_2-X^4-h_3-X^2-h_4-h_5-h_6-h_7-FFY-X^1-TE,$

wherein

h_1 is L or I;

h_2 is L or I;

h_3 is V or I;

h_4 is L or I;

h_5 is L or I;

h_6 is R or Q; and

h_7 is S, T or C.